

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO REGULATE THE WEIGHING OF COAL AT MINES AND TO ESTABLISH A UNIFORM AND JUST SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS OF COAL BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :

SECTION 1. That all merchantable coal mined in this State under contract for payment by
2 the bushel, or other quantity, shall be weighed in the car or other receptacle in which it is
3 placed by the miner at his working place in the mine, and shall be so weighed before being
4 dumped or screened, and such miner or employe shall be credited with the full weight
5 thereof ; provided, that if lumps of black-jack or other impurities appear on such car when
6 brought to the surface, such impurities may be thrown off before weighing such car, but no
7 further dockage shall be unlawful, and eighty pounds shall constitute a bushel and two
8 thousand pounds shall constitute a ton.

SEC. 2. All nut or small coal requiring the use of a shovel or other tool in handling it in
2 the mine, shall be lifted and placed in the car or receptacle in which it is to be weighed, by
3 the use of a coal fork ; the tines of which shall be one inch apart and no more ; and all coal
4 so loaded, together with the lump coal shall be weighed and paid for as merchantable coal.

SEC. 3. Such fine coal or slack as is left in the mine by the method of handling, as pro-
2 vided in section two, shall be sent to the surface by the miner, for which purpose the oper-
3 ator or his agent shall furnish the necessary cars, and such coal slack or dirt shall be treated
4 as unmerchantable, and for which no pay shall be exacted by the miner.

SEC. 4. The weighman employed in any mine of this State shall take and subscribe to an
2 oath or affirmation before some officer legally authorized to administer oaths, to do justice
3 to employer and employes, and to weigh correctly all merchantable coal as described in sec-
4 tion two of this act, and report the weight thereof. Said oath or affirmation shall be kept
5 conspicuously posted in the office or place of weighing. Any weighman so employed who
6 shall violate the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and
7 shall be punished as provided in section five of this act.

SEC. 5. Any person or corporation having for use any scale or scales, or permitting (know-
2 ingly) the use of any scale or scales at the mines so arranged or adjusted that fraudulent
3 weighing is done thereby, or shall in any procure the fraudulent weighing of coal at their
4 mines, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and for each such offense upon conviction
5 shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the
6 county jail not exceeding thirty days.

SEC. 6. All contracts or parts of contracts made between employer and employe which
2 are in conflict with the provisions of this act are void.